



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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September 26, 2006

Dear Facilitator,

The PLT/WILD/WET team is now fully staffed and ready to refresh these state sponsored environmental education programs with new ideas and initiatives. Christal Campbell has rejoined our staff this month to focus on Project WILD and Project WET and we have hired Jackie Hanzal as the office associate to assist you with your workshop needs and to keep our office running smoothly.



PLT/WILD/WET Team- (from left to right) Christal Campbell, Chris Tall, Janet Hutchens, and Jackie Hanzal.

Jackie is a southern Minnesota native who graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a degree in Conservation Biology. She began her environmental education career several years ago working as a ranger, naturalist, and the classes and events coordinator for the University of Wisconsin Madison, Arboretum. Jackie has been working in the DNR education section since May of 2006 as the state coordinator for the Green and Healthy School program and will continue that role. Jackie is looking forward to meeting and working with all of our dedicated and hardworking facilitators.

Office Matters

Jackie will be available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to meet your needs. You can reach her at the general PLT/WILD/WET phone number 608-264-6280. When scheduling your next workshop, remember that the earlier we receive your proposal (two to three months), the more we can assist you with marketing your workshop statewide. Submit your next workshop proposals to Jackie with all of the details of your workshop completed on the forms. This will ensure that your needs are met in the best and most efficient manner possible and will also provide us with vital workshop data required by the national programs. Our fax numbers is 608-261-8453 or mail them to:

Wisconsin PLT/WILD/WET
DNR, CE/8

P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

To help cut down on paperwork for you and to help us streamline our records, we are considering developing an electronic form on the Web for you to fill out and submit online. E-mail us as soon as possible if you'd be interested in this type of workshop proposal system.

Please help us market and distribute some of the great teacher resources DNR has available by reviewing the list of supplementary materials (coming soon on the Facilitator's Niche web page) carefully and specifying the quantities you need as you send in your workshop proposal. Feel free to order samples of any materials you think would enhance your workshops to view them first-hand.

IMPORTANT: New Payment Procedures

As with all things in life, change is inevitable. The DNR has just instituted a new billing system and payments should no longer be sent to the PLT/WILD/WET office. Jackie will ask you to identify the specific billing party and address for your workshops and any special billing instructions. An invoice will be generated by our office and sent through an automated billing system. You will need to wait for the invoice to arrive in order to make the payment for each workshop. Payment will go to a "lockbox" outside of the DNR. The billing cycle allows 30 days to make the payment and late payments can decrease the amount of funds that come back to our program. Please contact Jackie if you have any questions.

We will be catching up with invoicing in the coming month and Jackie will be contacting everyone who has outstanding accounts, so please hold all checks from recent workshops. Thank you.

PLT 2006 Guide Training - NOW ONLINE!

As noted in our July newsletter, we were able to record the new PLT guide training, presented by Al Stenstrup, on a new technology that has enabled us to share the training with all of you. You can access the videos through our [Facilitator's Niche](#) Web page, just click on "[Cornerstone for Environmental Education: Introducing the 2006 PreK-8 Activity Guide](#)". After viewing the training videos, please be sure to send us your feedback. Just click the link at the bottom of the training page or send us an e-mail at pltwildwet@dnr.state.wi.us.

Note: The new *Leaf Through the PLT Guide* handout is also available on the [Facilitator's Niche](#) Web page.

Reminder: All new workshops will now receive the new PLT Prek-8 guides. If you have old PLT guides in storage, please send them back so that we can get an accurate inventory of our total book supply. We now have the secondary module entitled "*Exploring Environmental Issues: Places We Live*" in stock and PLT facilitators may receive one free copy. Please request them through Jackie.

New PLT Guides for Trained Educators

Educators who have attended a Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop in the past can now order PLT's new *PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide* directly from PLT for \$29.95, plus \$7.95 shipping and handling. The guide's newest features--reading connections, technology connections, differentiated instruction, and assessment strategies--help educators bring the environment into the classroom and still meet today's standards. The 480-page guide contains 96 multi-disciplinary activities, each carefully designed for specific grade levels and learning objectives, and correlated to national and state standards. All activities have been updated and revised; new activities address current issues such as invasive species and climate change. Visit <http://www.plt.org/> for details.

Facilitator News

Congratulations to Joe Raboin, Tri-County High School in Plainfield, as the newest facilitator in our network. Joe is trained in all of our programs including PLT-Early Childhood. Thank you Larry Mancl for doing a great job training Joe into our network.

Katherine Morgen, Wisconsin PLT advisory board member from the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, will be retiring on October 1 of this year. We want to thank her for her years of service to our state program and wish her well in the future.

Jeff Cain endured some serious health issues this summer and we are thankful that he is now doing fine.

Michigan is gaining a new facilitator as WI mentee Dr. Greg Coverdale moves eastward. Thank you Libby Dorn for training this new leader in environmental education and best wishes to Greg.

K-6th grade educators are needed to review a **K-6 Understanding Black Bear CD-ROM Curriculum** that is being produced by former PLT Assistant, Cindy Bertalan. The goal of this project is to provide project partners and other educational outlets with a comprehensive interactive CD-ROM that can be distributed to grade school educators. Those interested in joining the review committee should contact Great Outdoors Multimedia, Cindy Bertalan, 608-835-0435 or 608-835-9746, e-mail: cjb1113@charter.net.

Publications Update

PLT Facilitators don't forget to check out the latest issue of the The Branch, PLT's newsletter: http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/36_123_0.html and let educators know about this information resource in your PLT workshops.

New Resources:

- [Project WET Student pages CD](#)- This CD contains every student copy page (black line master) in the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide in both English and Spanish. .pdf files print directly from your computer reducing wear on your guide and your time at the copy machine. WET facilitators can order one free copy and trained WET educators can purchase a copy for \$5 by contacting Jackie Hanzal at (608) 264-6280.
- [WEEB Grant](#) -The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) awards grants for the development, dissemination, and implementation of environmental education programs. They are open to corporations and public agencies including: counties, cities, villages, towns, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, school districts, and cooperative educational service agencies. Funds are allocated in three categories: forestry, school forests, and general environmental education. Learn more about WEEB at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/> . Application Deadline: **January 13, 2007**.
- [C.D. Besadny Conservation Grants](#) were created to fill an important niche in funding small-scale, grassroots conservation projects. Grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded to schools, organizations, individuals, and government agencies (DNR included) for projects involving education, restoration, research, and management of Wisconsin's natural resources. Call (608) 266-1430 or e-mail: barbara.barzen@wisconsin.gov for more information. Application deadline: **January 15, 2007**.
- [PLT GreenWorks! Grant](#) applications due **September 29, 2006**. *GreenWorks!* environmental action projects link classroom learning and the real world. By combining the environmental knowledge and resources of PLT with community action initiatives, *GreenWorks!* action projects make a difference in how young people think, in their sense of responsibility toward their communities, and in their understanding of their relationship to the environment. Find out more about this program or to download a grant application visit the National PLT website at: <http://www.plt.org>.

PLT/WILD/WET Fall Schedule:

- WILD/Aquatic WILD, Beaver Creek Reserve- September 22 & October 20. Facilitator: Tom Thompson. Restricted Enrollment.

- WILD/Aquatic Wild, UW-Milwaukee- September 30. Facilitator: Debbie McRae. Restricted Enrollment.
- WILD/Aquatic Wild, UW-Green Bay- September 30. Facilitator: Kim Diedrich. Restricted Enrollment.
- Project WET, Retzer Nature Center, Waukesha- October 3. Facilitator: Jayne Jenks. Open enrollment.
- WILD/Aquatic WILD, Milwaukee Public Museum for Marquette course, October 7 & 14, Facilitator: Vanessa Torti. Restricted enrollment.
- WILD/Aquatic WILD, Northland College, October 10-24, Facilitator: Clayton Russell. Restricted enrollment.
- [Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education](#): October 27, Janet Hutchens, Get Saturated... with Aquatic Education Resources!
- [Wisconsin Education Association Council](#): October 27, Chris Tall & Christal Campbell, Get Saturated... with Aquatic Education Resources!
- [Wisconsin Library Association](#): November 1-2, Chris Tall and Carrie Morgan, DNR Education Exhibit.

Upcoming Events: Please promote these to your workshop participants.

- [2007 Arbor Day Poster Contest](#). Lesson materials, addressed to "5th grade teacher," will be sent to all public and private elementary schools in October 2006. **Deadline: postmarked by February 20, 2007.**
- [Groundwater Workshops for Educators - January 2007](#). Attend a groundwater workshop (three are offered around the state) and receive a free groundwater model. Application deadline: **November 1, 2006.**

The PLT/WILD/WET Team,

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